

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
Notice of Work Group Meeting for Several
Total Maximum Daily Load Studies in Waters
in Northampton and Accomack Counties

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality will host a Work Group meeting on water quality studies for Little Mosquito Creek and Assawoman Creek in Accomack County, and Nassawadox Creek with several tributaries located in Northampton County on **Tuesday June 23, 2015**.

The meeting will start at **10:00 a.m.** in the Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission building (A-NPDC) located at 23372 Front Street Accomack, Virginia 23301. The purpose of the meeting is to provide information and discuss the study with community members and local government.

Little Mosquito Creek and Assawoman Creek were identified in Virginia's 2014 Water Quality Assessment & Integrated Report as impaired due to violations of the State's water quality standards for dissolved oxygen and do not support the Designated Use for Aquatic Life. Additionally, Nassawadox Creek and several tributaries have been identified as impaired since they do not meet the water quality standards for Shellfish or Recreation Uses due to elevated levels of bacteria.

Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and §62.1-44.19:7.C of the Code of Virginia, require DEQ to develop TMDLs for pollutants responsible for each impaired water contained in Virginia's 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report and subsequent Water Quality Assessment Reports.

During the study, DEQ will develop a Total Maximum Daily Load for the impaired waters. A TMDL is the total amount of a pollutant a water body can contain and still meet water quality standards. To restore water quality, pollutant levels have to be reduced to the TMDL amount. The Virginia Departments of Environmental Quality, Conservation and Recreation, and Health are working to identify the sources of pollution in the watersheds of these streams.

For additional information or to submit comments, contact Jennifer Howell, in the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Tidewater Regional Office, 5636 Southern Blvd, Virginia Beach VA 23462, by phone (757) 518-2111 or by e-mail jennifer.howell@deq.virginia.gov.

Additional information is also available on the DEQ web site at www.deq.virginia.gov/tmdl.